

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) For use with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal, a performance indication system, comprising:

a rate discrimination subsystem configured to provide a determination of a data transfer rate of said USB signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation; and

a condition indication subsystem coupled to said rate discrimination subsystem and configured to indicate ~~provide a signal indicating~~ said data transfer rate to a user.

2. (Original) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said performance indication system is contained in a USB cable assembly.

3. (Original) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein at least a portion of said performance indication system is contained in a peripheral device.

4. (Currently Amended) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~at least a portion of~~ said condition indication subsystem employs a visual display to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

5. (Currently Amended) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein ~~at least a portion of~~ said condition indication subsystem employs an audible device to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

6. (Original) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said determination of said data transfer rate is based on an outcome of a chirping process.

7. (Currently Amended) The performance indication system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said rate discrimination subsystem employs a control signal associated with a USB signal for said determination of said data transfer rate.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a performance indication system for use with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal, comprising:

determining a data transfer rate of said USB signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation; and  
indicating said data transfer rate to a user.

9. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining and said indicating is performed in circuitry contained in a USB cable assembly.

10. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining and said indicating is performed in circuitry contained in a peripheral device.

11. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at least a portion of said indicating said data transfer rate employs a visual display.

12. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein at least a portion of said indicating said data transfer rate employs an audible device.

13. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining of said data transfer rate is based on an outcome of a chirping process.

14. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 8 wherein said determining of said data transfer rate employs a control signal associated with said USB signal.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a central processing unit associated with a keyboard, a pointing device and a monitor; and  
a performance indication system, including:

a rate discrimination subsystem that is configured to provide a determination of a data transfer rate of a Universal Serial Bus (USB) signal corresponding to a full-speed operation and a high-speed operation; and

a condition indication subsystem, coupled to said rate discrimination subsystem, that is configured to indicate ~~provide a signal indicating~~ said data transfer rate to a user.

16. (Original) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 further comprising a USB cable assembly, at least a portion of said performance indication system being contained in said USB cable assembly.

17. (Original) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 further comprising a peripheral device, at least a portion of said performance indication system being contained in said peripheral device.

18. (Currently Amended) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein ~~at least a portion of~~ said condition indication subsystem employs a visual display to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein ~~at least a portion of~~ said condition indication subsystem employs an audible device to indicate said data transfer rate to said user.

20. (Original) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said determination of said data transfer rate is based on an outcome of a chirping process.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer system as recited in Claim 15 wherein said rate discrimination subsystem employs a control signal associated with said USB signal for said determination of said data transfer rate.